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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of: **Junyo KAKU**

Group Art Unit: TBA

Serial No.: **10/073,006**

Examiner: **TBA**

Filed: **February 12, 2002**

Confirmation No.: **5121**

For: **DIGITAL CAMERA**

Attorney Docket No.: **020174**

Customer Number: **38834**

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**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**  
**PURSUANT TO 37 CFR 1.97(b)**

**DEC 23 2003**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

**Technology Center 2600**  
**December 19, 2003**

Sir:

Applicants direct the attention of the Patent and Trademark Office to the documents listed on the attached Form PTO-1449. A copy of the documents listed, is attached.

No fee is required in connection with this Information Disclosure Statement, because it is being submitted prior to the issuance of a first official action on the merits or expiration of the three month period following the filing date or the entry of the national stage of the above-captioned application.

The undersigned hereby certifies that each item of information contained in this statement was first cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this statement.

The above information is presented so that the Patent and Trademark Office can, in the first instance, determine any materiality thereof to the claimed invention. Applicants respectfully request that the information be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application

By: **Junyo KAKU**

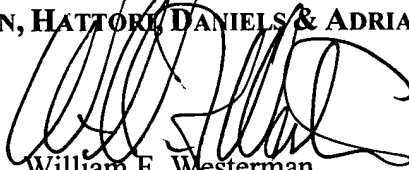
Serial No. **10/073,006**

and that the documents cited in the attached Form PTO-1449 be made of record therein and appear on the first page of any patent to issue therefrom.

The Commissioner is authorized to charge our Deposit Account No. 50-2866 for any fee that is required to effect consideration of this statement.

Respectfully submitted,

**WESTERMAN, HATTORI, DANIELS & ADRIAN, LLP**

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'William F. Westerman', is written over the printed name.

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**INFORMATION  
DISCLOSURE  
CITATION  
PTO-1449**

Atty. Docket No. **020174**

Serial No. **10/073,006**

Applicant(s): **Junya KAKU**

Filing Date: **February 12, 2002**

Group Art Unit: **TBA**

**U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS**

Examiner Initial		Document No.	Name	Date	Class	Subclass	Filing Date (If appropriate)

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**FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS**

Examiner Initial		Document No.	Date	Country	Translation (Yes or No)
		<b>2000-125255</b>	<b>4/28/00</b>	<b>Japan</b>	<b>Yes-Abstract</b>
		<b>09-023405</b>	<b>1/21/97</b>	<b>Japan</b>	<b>Yes-Abstract</b>

**OTHER DOCUMENTS**

Examiner		Date Considered